

may do, it is *written* what he will do, and there is no promise anywhere that the soul that refuses to do what the Lord Jesus Christ has commanded that shall be done, shall ever enter into rest with him. Indeed the just judgment of God ought to be a mighty incentive to us to open our hearts and purse strings for the salvation of souls, and the evangelization of the world.

A second incentive is the promise of rewards for faithful service. Jesus says, Behold! I come quickly; and my reward is with me to give every man according as his work shall be. Rev. 22:12.

The rewards are not only eternal, but they are temporal as well. Thru the Prophet Malachi the Lord said, "Bring me all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. 3:10.

Jesus emphasizes the above scripture in Mark 10:29-30 thus: Verily I say unto you, there is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life. In this life men are anxious to invest at six per cent interest, but the Lord promises one hundred per cent, and yet people are unwilling to trust him; his promises are yea and amen; they are true and will be fulfilled. How easy it is for the Lord to send, or withhold the rain, or sunshine, heat or cold and thus regulate the products of the soil. Many a rich farmer or merchant would become richer by giving more liberally to the cause of missions, than he does by withholding.

The writer has had large experience on this point, and knows whereof he speaks, having given to the cause of Christ during a pilgrimage of twenty five years thousands of dollars and yet has no less thousands himself, and probably more than he would otherwise have. Many a poor farmer, or laborer who feels that he cannot afford to contribute to the cause of missions would have no less money at the end of the year if he made liberal contributions. It was pre determined before the foundation of the world that just as surely as man fell, so surely should he have an opportunity to be redeemed. It was foretold by the prophets that the salvation of God should be seen to the ends of the earth, and Jesus committed the evangelization of the world to men; not however without asserting his absolute power and authority, and promising his presence. The presence of Jesus implies the resources of heaven and earth to accomplish the work. Upon the accomplishment of this work depends the destiny of this, and other ages, as Jesus declares in Matt. 24:14 that the end of this sinful dispensation will not come

until the gospel has been preached as a witness to all the world. Surely that for which Jesus came, that for which he died, and rose again, that for which he tarries (impatiently methinks) he will see to it that the means are supplied from the mines, the mountains, and the plains, if men will trust him. It is not money that you need brother, or sister; it is *faith*. Faith in the threatened judgments of God upon such as fail to obey him. Faith in the promised rewards to them that trust and obey him. Faith in the declarations of his purpose. Faith in the assertion of his power. Faith in his supremacy over things physical as well as spiritual.

The parable of the pounds and the parable of the talents are abundant assurance that every one will be rewarded according as his work shall be, and where there is no work, there can be no reward, but a fearful looking of judgement.

Nearly all the activities of the intensely active life in this world have their foundation in the reward hoped for. This applies to the millionaire and wash woman alike. It is strange that many, many among even the professed followers of the divine missionary that they are so indifferent as to the reward in a life that is endless. The thought of being satisfied to get into some obscure corner of heaven is an insult to God; there will be no obscure corners there. If there is a salvation as if by fire it will be in the full glare of the glory of God, to the everlasting shame and contempt of every such unfortunate soul. There will be no star-chamber whitewashing then as there is now.

Another incentive to mission work is the constraint, or sense of duty to the world, the church, and to Christ. Whether we fear the just judgments of God, or not, whether we care for an eternal reward, or not, we are under some obligation to contribute to the welfare of our fellow beings. We have no right to stand idly by and see a man drown, or hang himself, nor allow one man to kill another without protest and interference on our part; to do so involves us as accessories to such crime, or crimes; it is our bounden duty to protect and to prevent such acts. Just so in spiritual things; as professing Christians it is as much our *duty* to protect and prevent a soul from being lost in the life to come as it is to prevent them from committing suicide in this life. This duty is not bounded by territorial limits, its boundary is the extent of our possibility both as to personal work and financial aid. No man can say that it is his duty to see to it that the people of his town, or township are saved, but that it is none of his business what becomes of the people in all the rest of the world. We are responsible for the salvation of every soul in *all* the world to the extent of ability. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" is the divine command, and our duty and responsibility is no less than this.

Men's duty to the church is so little understood. It is admitted by all thinking men

that the church of Jesus Christ is the only really transforming, revolutionizing force in the world. China has been about the same China for over four thousand years; if there have been any changes there they were wrought thru the transforming power of the church of Christ. This is true of every other quarter of the globe; even our own Anglo-Saxon race. Go back six or seven hundred years and we would be ashamed to own our parentage. What we are today better than the rest of the world we are by the grace of God thru the power and influence of the church. Consequently it is our duty to the church that we extend her borders wherever man is found. It is base ingratitude on the part of every professing Christian to aim to do less than this. Duty should be a great incentive to stir our hearts and souls to missionary enterprise.

Another great incentive to missionary zeal is love. The Word says, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Rom. 10:15. By bringing the gospel of love and peace to others we become the objects of their love; the idols of their hearts; this alone is a rich compensation for sacrifice and service. Who is more miserable than he who has lost the love and respect of his fellow beings? Who is more happy than he who is loved by all those that come in contact with him?

Unselfish love is peculiarly a characteristic of the Christian religion, and the deeper and purer that religion is, the more intense the love of the heart.

It was the love of God and the love of other men that has saved us. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son to die, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

If we are real Christians, that is, if we have become Christ like, we have partaken of the divine nature, or the divine love, and will as a result give all that is precious to us for the salvation of others, partly for their sakes, and partly for our own sakes that we may enjoy their love and esteem for us. There may be a taint of selfishness in this but it is entirely lawful and even well-pleasing to God; God gave his Son to the world that he might be loved. Jesus Christ poured out his life in love, that he might command the love of his own. To love others that they may love us is Christ-like. A selfishness that contributes to the welfare and salvation of others is always right. What richer reward can come to any of us than to be able to look into the face of departed ones that we have loved into the kingdom of God. Oh, if we could just lift the curtain for a few moments and let cold, indifferent, stingy Christians see the meeting of such on the eternal shore, how our missionary treasures would fill up and how soon the problem of home and foreign missions would be solved with us.

Another incentive should be the desire to